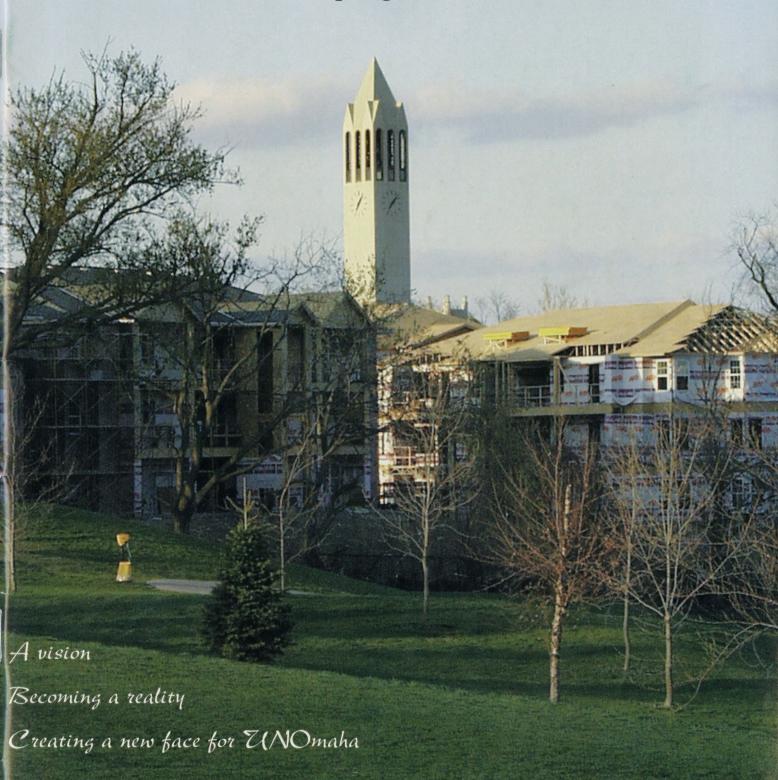
# Retrospect A recollection of progress Pat UNOmaha



Gateway Year In Review • Spring 99 • Issue 4



1998 - 19

Performing Arts

Special Events

• Issues & Ideas

• Rising Star

• Multicultural

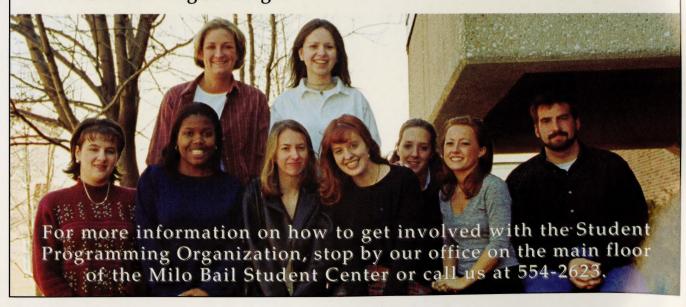
Festivals

Comedy

· Travel of NEW

## SPO Chairpersons:

Back from left: Jayme Schmieding, Kathy Denker Front row from left: Frankie Coleman, Latisha Davis, Amy Guice, Melissa Buck, Koree Taylor, Liz Higgins, Charles Cunningham Not Pictured: Angela Riegel





#### **AMERICAN MULTICULTURAL STUDENTS**

First Floor, Milo Bail Student Center 554-2345

The Purpose of the AMS Agency is to represent the cultural and academic interests of the various racial/ethnic groups in conjunction with the following student oranizations:

A.A.O.
African American Organization
I.T.C.
Inter-Tribal Council
A.L.A.S.
Association of Latino American Students
A.A.C.S.
Asian American Cultural Society

98/99 Events • Earth Day Pow Wow Las Adelitas - 11 pc. female Mariachi Band

The Super Anges African Dance Troupe

 "Gangs on the Rise" discussion of gang culture in Omaha

 "Follow Me Home" movie and discussion with filmmaker Peter Bratt

 "The Grapes of Wrath" discussion on work conditions of migrant farm workers



#### INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SERVICES

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#### **Educational Activities**

Conversational Partners High School Outreach Social Activities

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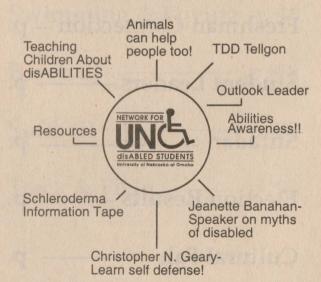
Volunteer Services, Self Defense, Peers to talk with, Info on domestic violence, Living room style atmosphere, Condoms and sex ed., Founders of W.A.R. (Women Against Rape), Referrals for counseling, 1000 book library, Gay & lesbian referrals, Info on women's issues.

554-2730

Milo Bail Student Center

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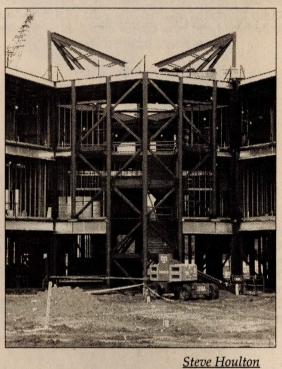


NdS is an advocate for students, helps support them to reach their goals and provides acitivities and programs.

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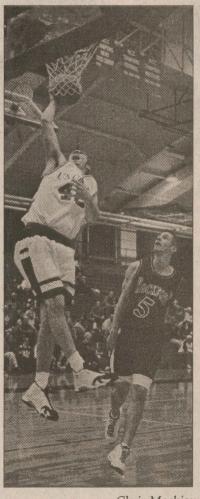
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Chris Machian

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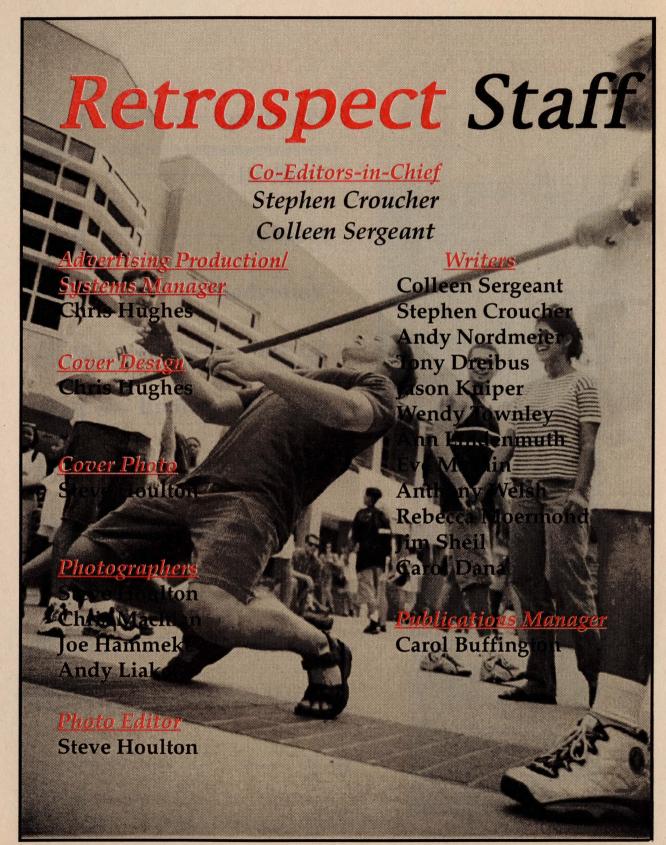
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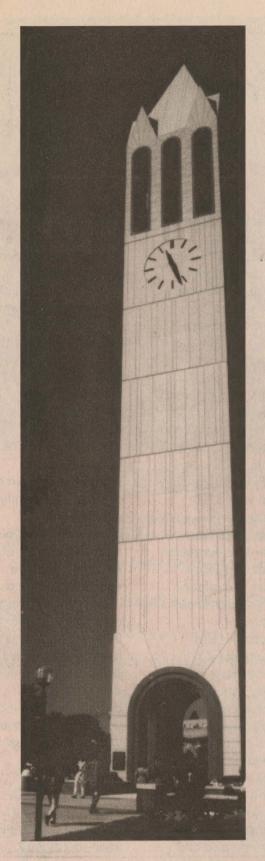
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# Thank you, UNOmaha!

Thank you ...

for choosing UNOmaha to learn, to teach, to serve.

UNOmaha has built a tradition as a center of learning that provides students with the knowledge and skills necessary to live a rewarding life and appreciate the diversity of cultures in our metropolitan community.

Thank <u>you</u>, <u>students</u>, for your willingness to do what it takes to succeed. We see you working diligently to manage multiple commitments in class, at work and at home.

Thank you, faculty, for your commitment to educational and research excellence, and for your willingness to share your experiences.

Thank <u>you</u>, staff, for your unwavering dedication to the often unheralded daily tasks that keep UNOmaha on track.

Thank <u>you</u>, <u>community partners</u>, for helping us create a continuum of lifelong learning in preparation for our roles in the 21st century.

Thank <u>you</u>, **UNOmaha**, for serving as Nebraska's metropolitan university of distinction.

Mancy Belck
Chancellor

#### From the Editors Letters

#### by Stephen Croucher

Looking back and picking what stood out in my mind as the most important events or people, was not easy.

So many things happened at UNO, all of which captured my attention and imagination.

I hope this magazine is a good representation of what happened at UNO in 1998 and 1999 and I hope you enjoy it, I enjoyed creating

If I could give anyone reading this a bit of advise, may you be a veteran of UNO, a new graduate or a freshman. it would be to hold onto your beliefs and dreams.

Never let someone tell you your dreams aren't important, or they should take second fiddle to something they like and think you should too.

If your dream is to get an education, don't let others tell you how to do it. When work asks you to skip class for them, remember your priorities, whatever they may be. If your priority is to go to class, then tell work no. Trust me this does happen, even at UNO.

Please remember. your beliefs and dreams can never be taken away from you. No matter what, hold them close to your heart and never let someone try to take them from you.

Good luck in accomplishing whatever it is you want to achieve in life.

#### by Colleen Sergeant

Working on this magazine has allowed me to see the tremendous strides UNO made over the past year, but it was also a good time for me to reflect on my own progress.

I passed organic chemistry II. I left the "nest." Turning 21 was a highlight. I was published in the "real world." I decided on a major, finally. And—the Gateway. What can I say about this place?

My experiences here are invaluable. But, sometimes I wonder how on earth I ended up here, or why I've stayed up all hours of the night agonizing over the right words.

The reason is simple—I love it. Had I not been open-minded and tried new things at UNO. I would have never walked into the Gateway, been a student senator, experienced Greek life, or been taught the lambada by Colombian students.

Look at what you do each day. Is all of your time spent responding to demands? Maintaining a GPA, paying bills and spending time with friends and family are all very important, but you must also be an initiator to move your life forward.

Do an internship, network with people in your field, or learn a new skill. In the process of exploring the possibilities in life, you will learn about yourself and your purpose.

So as another chapter at UNO comes to a close, have you done your year-in-review?

#### **Mulder Death**

by Colleen Sergeant

A year of many gains for the new Information Science & Technology College, was stricken by loss.

The man who laid the foundation for the new college died Jan.

Although Michael C. Mulder's time as dean of IS&T was cut short by cancer, his influence "was an inspiration to us all, and will continue to serve as

the road map for the future development of the institute," said Derek Hodgson, vice chancellor for academic affairs.

Mulder used his professional ties with the local community to take the college from the planning stages to the Peter Kiewit Institute, now under construction and scheduled to open this fall.

His vision was to make business and higher education a team.

Those who worked closely with Mulder said he was "a great achiever, courageous, strong, a leader, fully willing to conceptualize and create the new college and well-known in the professional community both nationally and internationally."

Mulder, a native of Gresham, Ore., attended Oregon State University where he received a bachelor's degree and a master's degree.

He obtained an additional master's degree from the University of Washington and a doctoral degree from Montana State University.

He joined the University of Southwestern Louisiana as a professor of computer science and engineering in 1989 and worked at the National Science Foundation since 1995.

Mulder was hired by UNO in July 1996.

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UNOCCC is a division of Student Services & Enrollment Management

#### **IS&T Blossoms**

#### by Tony Dreibus

Thirty-seven million dollars worth of planning, equipment and labor will finally

come together
when the Peter
Kiewit Institute
of Information
Science
Technology
and
Engineering
opens its doors

in April 1999.

Located on the 70-acre plot of land, which used to harbor horse racing and betting, better known as Aksarben, the new facility will provide students with some of the best facilities and equipment the information technology field has to offer.

With opportunities like that, more and more students are going into information science careers.

"The number of applications has increased steadily over

the past few years," Thomas McClung, interim dean of IS&T said. well as the College of Engineering and Technology. Under this "umbrella system," the new facility will be known as the Peter Kiewit Institute of Information Science Technology and The Kiewit Institute will be about 190,000 square feet, have 47 full-time faculty members, 38 part-time faculty members and numerous staff and technicians.

In addition to the

people, equipment is another highlight of the facility. According to a brochure from IS&T, over 300 computers will be generally accessible to students in the college of IS&T alone.

On the first floor, there will be a general computer lab, split with an advanced computer lab for IST&E students, McClung said.

Specialized labs, designed for use by IST&E students, will be located on the second and third floors.

Some of the new programs implemented will include a new core curriculum, new distance learning facilities and internships.



Steve Houlton

He cited three reasons why more students are flocking to UNO: the amount of job opportunities in the fields, strong support by local businesses and the promise of a quality education.

The new building, will house both the College of Information Science and Technology (IS&T), as

Engineering (IST&E) building.

Support from business leaders and the community at large aided the development of the institute. Several companies, both local and nationwide, gave large grants and "investments," that helped make the new facility a reality.

The new curriculum will require IST&E students to complete five courses, plus a seminar course, before they go into their major courses, McClung said. This will not only help the students determine which degree to pursue, but also help the university determine which programs the student would best be suited

"It will be a benefit both ways," McClung said.

At its inception, IS&T was given a mandate to provide educational opportunities in information technology to residents throughout Nebraska.

UNO's first distance education center opened in Scottsbluff in fall 1997. The newest addition to this program opened in Norfolk in spring 1999.

With backing from business leaders, distance education is a main focus of IS&T.

Internships at IS&T not only offer

opportunities for students, but for faculty and members of the business community as well.

Students will still be able to work in a business setting, while earning college credit and gain experience in their chosen career field. In addition to this, the Faculty Fellow Program will allow IS&T faculty members to branch out and share their expertise in a business setting. The third facet of the program will take

business leaders from the community and put them into the classroom to educate, research and collaborate with students.

With IS&T and engineering moving to the new facility, other programs and departments, which are currently in smaller houses and buildings, will move into the Durham Science Center, and the Engineering building is scheduled to be refurbished.

Student Organizations & Leadership Development invites you to

# Make An Impression Get Involved on Campus

Two upcoming events you can't afford to miss!!!

#### Clubs and Organizations Fair

Thursday, August 26 11a.m. - 1p.m. Student Center Plaza

Come meet organization members and learn more about UNO's organizations!

#### 1999 Fall Leadership Conference"

"It's a Jungle Out There" Saturday, September 18 3rd floor, Student Center

Learn new skills and become a better leader!!

Open to all students

Register in the Student Center Business Office 2nd floor

For more information on any of our upcoming programs or any of UNO's clubs and organizations, please call 554-2711.

A division of Student Affairs

# **University Village**

#### **Tony Dreibus**

It wasn't just another groundbreaking, it was the groundbreaking UNO has been waiting for since its origination as a public university.

Ground

was broken Wednesday, Sept. 30, on the southwest side of campus for UNO's first oncampus housing project, know as University Village (UV).

UV will

include

residents.

seven three-story residence halls, and a clubhouse that will host social activities and serve as a gathering point for

Four of the halls and the clubhouse will be located near the Criminal Justice building, with three apartment buildings going up near the Weber Fine Arts building.

UV, scheduled to open for the fall 1999

have their own room.

Three priority groups: varsity athletics, international students and academic students, have each been allotted 144 spaces in UV, with the rest of the rooms going to general students.

UV is being constructed by Paric

campus," said Susan Moore, managing director of University Village at UNO. "It will impact not only students who live on campus but also students who commute to campus."

"It will create a different kind of campus culture, and

foster more ownership or loyalty," she said.

"Students will have more of a sense of belonging." Moore, who is employed by CCHM, but lives in Omaha, is working in conjunction with Vance Valerio, assistant vice chancellor for student development

services, to see that everything goes smoothly.

A warm winter helped the cause of the Paric Construction crews, allowing them to work when normally the ground would be frozen.



Steve Houlton

semester, is not your run of the mill, everyday residence hall.

Each unit, or apartment, will consist of a kitchen, a living room, two bathrooms and four bedrooms.

Residents will each

Construction, a firm from St. Louis, Mo., and will be managed by Houston-based Century Campus Housing Management (CCHM).

"I think (on-campus housing) will bring a new dimension to the Costs are "about average" for a standard residence hall, about \$300 per month, which will include rent, furniture rental and utilities payment, Moore said.

Six and nine month leases will be required for residents who plan on living at UV.

Also, administrators are looking at offering residents meal plans through UNO Food Service.

Students also believe the addition of on-campus housing will benefit UNO as a whole.

"It makes it more of a campus," said

dorms there. "It'll



Steve Houlton

Courtney Allen, a graduate student who attended Creighton University and lived in the

definitely change the atmosphere." Andrea Milligan, another graduate student, who also lived in the dorms at Creighton, agreed. "It's part of the

experience," she said.
"You meet more
people that way."

A number of student jobs will be created with the new housing.

Six community assistants (CA's) will be hired. CA's are similar to resident assistants, or RA's at other institutions. They will be required to help students and enforce policies in return for free rent and furniture rental.

Campus security does not predict many problems with the new halls, and is not looking to hire any new officers to patrol University Village, said Paul Kosel, manager of campus security.

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#### **UNO Freshman Connection**

by Jason Kuiper

In an effort to increase retention of incoming freshmen at UNO, Derek Hodgson, vice chancellor of academic affairs, started a new program to help students adapt to college life.

The program is called "First-Year Connection" and is in its pilot phase of development this semester.

Hodgson said the program, which will be available to all freshmen by this fall, will help students connect, by pairing them up with a faculty member or administrator who they can turn to with questions or concerns about the college experience.

"We want to get every freshmen adopted. If you can keep a student the first two semesters, they have a better chance of staying here and graduating," said UNO Chancellor Nancy Belck.

"It is a great opportunity for new students to faculty member, administrator or staff member will soon be contacting them to find out how they can be of help or assistance.

The mentor may offer to take the student out for

"The possibilities are endless."
- Sheri Rogers, first year

connection coordinator.

feel involved here. All it will cost is the person's time," Hodgson said.

A letter was mailed to 425 freshmen in March informing them they have been chosen to participate in the program.

The letter says a

lunch or a softdrink. The student is not required to attend, but it is a chance for the staff and faculty to make new students feel like they are a valued part of the university.

"I don't have any first-year students in my classes," said



Sheri Rogers, who is coordinating the program. "It's a great chance for me to get involved with these students."

Faculty and administrators have welcomed the program with open arms.

"The proposal meeting was full," Rogers said. "We ran out of room and had to keep getting more chairs, that rarely happens."

Rogers said while retention of new students is the main reason for the program, it is not the only one.

"The possibilities are endless,"
Rogers said. "If a student has an idea of what career field they may wish to enter, their mentor can arrange for them to talk with a

faculty member in that field or visit with a professional in that chosen career."

Each staff or faculty member will be assigned three or four students. The mentor will call on the student from time to time to touch base with them.

Besides faculty and staff, the chancellor, a regent, and all the vice chancellors have signed up to participate.

Rogers said one of the main reasons students leave universities is because they do not feel a connection to the school.

"With the addition of the residence halls and this program, I feel there could be a real change of climate on campus," she said.

# Happy Birthday UNO

In 1999, UNO celebrated its 90th birthday.

Thraghait those 90 years, UNO went through

numerous

and growth.

The name

changed, from



Steve Houlton

Omaha University to the University of Nebraska at

Omaha.
New
buildings were
erected and
countless
people have
graced the
hallowed

hallways.
UNO has
matured just like a
fine wine.



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University of Nebraska at Omaha

## **Student Leaders Take Off**

#### by Wendy Townley

An organization for the students, led by the students.

Sounds a little like the United States Constitution, but for Tara Knudson, it's her main goal.

Knudson works as the adviser to a four-year-old group at UNO, the Student Leadership Team. The team consists of seven **UNO** students this year, who share Knudson's goal of leadership.

"When I started working with leadership development, I really wanted the direction to come from the students and to be facilitated by the students," Knudson said. "I decided to create a leadership team."

Heavy recruitment from campus organizations in 1995, the first year of the team, was an avenue Knudson traveled to

obtain players for this

"We look for someone who has experienced leadership in some capacity," she said. "It doesn't necessarily have to be on the college level."

Knudson looks for

have responsibilities, but lack officers and the hierarchy of a typical organization.

"They all try to work together in the epitome in what the word 'team' is," she said.

"At first, I thought (involvement with) the of new things and can implement them in just about any club or activity," he said. Junior Jaclyn Anderson is a returning player.

"I enjoy working with other people," Anderson said. "I was on the team last year and really enjoyed it. I knew I could

gain skills by being involved with it."

"I attended the fall leadership conference last year, and at that point, they needed people for this year's team," said Frankie Coleman, a public relations major.

The Student Leadership Team taught Coleman to be more organized and responsible, she said.

"Being on the (team) makes you more aware of deadlines," she said.

Non-traditional students are also affiliated with the team.

As a former executive at a Fortune

"I (enjoy) being a part of something that can have a meaningful impact on student organizations."

> - Tom Kielty, student leadership team member

someone who is interested in learning more about leadership, to the point where they want to bring leadership to the university.

"Initiative...and vision (are) very important," she said.

This team's members

Student Leadership Team might be kind of time consuming," said Josh Meiners, a UNO freshman.

However, Meiners said what he's learned in the Student Leadership Team, is invaluable.

"You can learn a lot

ne Harven

A Same Health

100 company, UNO senior Tom Kielty made a decision.

"I had gone as far as I could in the business world," he said. "I wanted to teach at the university level and went back to school."

Kielty said the Student Leadership Team is good experience.

"I (enjoy) being a part of something that can have a meaningful impact on the student organizations."

As part of their duties, the team works

with other student organizations on campus on how they can improve their leadership.

In February and

and all students.

Experience is one of the main reasons senior history major Brandon Steenson got involved.

"Employers are more apt to give you the benefit of the doubt with

- Brandon Steenson, UNO student

March, the team hosted workshops open to any

experience."

"Employers are more apt to give you the

benefit of the doubt with experience," he said. "Employers would much rather have someone with a 2.8 GPA with leadership experience, than someone with a 4.0 and no experience."

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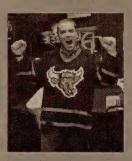
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## Jon Shradar

by Wendy Townley



Steve Houlton

To the average student, UNO Student President/Regent Jon Shradar said he doesn't mean a whole lot.

"(Especially) when we have elections with a 3.8 percent voter turn out," Shradar said

At the recent election, only about 550 students voted, from a campus of nearly 14,000.

At 21 years-old, Shradar is a junior, working towards his degree in communications.

He is the former president of the UNO College Republicans and recently joined Theta Chi fraternity.

"My schedule is my biggest challenge right now," Shradar said.

In addition to these activities and being a full-time student, Shradar works at a local law firm as a runner and clerk.

With his busy schedule, however, Shradar said he likes to think he is visible to students.

"People (know) they have a student president, but they're not very familiar with what that person does," he said. "It depends a lot on who the person is in that office."

"A continual ignorance on the part of everyone on campus (contributes to) misconceptions of what student government is and what they do," he said.

While Jon Shradar is in the office of student president/regent his plans for UNO continue to accumulate.

On-line elections is

one such idea.

To battle voter apathy, Shradar is working on a more accessible election. Students would log on to a web page, type in their social security number and PIN number. Descriptions of the candidates would be displayed on the screen. Students could vote from any computer with Internet access.

By the fall 1999 elections, Shradar has a goal of 10 percent voter turn-out.

Chancellor Nancy Belck sees the position of student president/ regent as critical.

"The student president has to listen to the students. He represents them," she said.

Belck said she would like to see Shradar work to increase student participation in the university's committee and council structure.

Shradar said he has a "good" working relationship with Belck.

"I see Chancellor

Belck, for sure, once a month at regent meetings, but we go to a lot of social events together. We have our walking meetings on campus, too," he said.

"Chancellor Belck is an awesome person and she really works hard for the students and tries to make things better," he said.

Amy Kopocis, legislative and public relations director for student government, said Shradar's enthusiasm is infectious.

"He's full of ideas, but he's also got a full plate, as many of us do. He's a good representative for the student body," Kopocis said.

Freshman Sen. Ryan Grillo said Shradar loves politics.

"We haven't seen a love for politics since Student President/ Regent Peterson," Grillo said. "I think he will be a great president/regent and will go down in the books as one of the best ever."

#### **Election Results**

#### by Stephen Croucher

Of the almost 14,000 students at UNO, only 543 voted in October's UNO Student Government elections, roughly 3.8 percent of the student body.

Jon Shradar obtained 354 votes for student president/regent, while his opponent Len Hillhouse received only 189 votes.

This low voter turnout was not a new trend. Many UNO

students have said they don't vote in student government 1998 issue of the *Gateway*, Jenny Strazdas, a UNO student said, "I don't care who wins. I didn't even know who was running."

Jenny Riva, a UNO student said in the

"I don't care who wins. I didn't even know who was running."

- Jenny Strazdas, UNO

elections because they don't care who wins or they do not like politics.

In the October 16,

same issue, "I just hate politics."

Besides the student president/regent elections, students also

went to the polls to elect senators and decided upon three referendums.

Two of the referendums approving the allocation of funds to the *Gateway* and for campus speakers were passed and the third, an allocation of funds to give student government officials salaries was soundly defeated.

#### Jon Shradar

354 votes

#### Len Hillhouse

189 votes

#### Referendum #1

Yes 307 No 246

#### Referendum #2

Yes 311 No 238

#### Referenumd #3

Yes 182 No 374

# Alpha Xi Delta Sorority



Social Events

- Spring Formal
- Date Parties
- Fraternity Exchanges

#### Philanthropy Events

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17

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## **Cultural Fair**

#### by Rebecca Moermond

Exchange students from around the world trade stories, tears and laughs, as the year draws to a close, possibly oblivious to the fact that they were just part of a trendsetting time in the history of UNO International Student Services.

"Students had a chance to participate in more activities arranged by ISS then ever before," said Ghafar Azimi, director of International Student Services.

Hayrack rides and apple picking in October offered a Halloween to remember, yet students left with much more then a full stomach and an itchy back.

"This was a time to celebrate as well as educate," Azimi said.

Each holiday was taken as a time to learn about American traditions and culture, yet, it did not stop there.

Cuest speakers such

as Norma Rahmazai, who spent time in Iraq and whose husband was in Iraq during the most recent bombings, spoke about life and culture.

The reggae band Rhythm Collective took a musical approach to education, by performing for students in the Milo Bail Student Center.

"It is important to hold on to your own culture while experiencing other cultures," said Ghaga Khalru, a senior broadcasting major from Sudan.

International students kept this statement alive by displaying a country each month in the Milo Bail Student Center and participating in the largest international event of the year, the International Culture Festival.

During this weeklong celebration of cultural diversity students, teachers and community members took part in the cultural fair and the international banquet.

During the cultural

fair it was the displays, photos and food samples shared by students and enjoyed by all which helped to, "break down barriers," said Robin McDowell, a UNO freshman.

"Events like this really show the unity of students here at UNO," McDowell said.

The "Golden Gate to the Great Wall" was the final event of the cultural festival, which was a hit.

"The banquet was the largest UNO has ever seen," Azimi said.

Early in the evening, students mingled over mulled cider from England and taco chips and salsa from Mexico, then it was into the ballroom for dinner and entertainment.

The feast consisted of everything from Greek salad to walnut-filled puff pastry from the Middle East and was accompanied in the ballroom with piano music by Dwayne Wilson, a UNO staff member.



Chris Machian



Chris Machian

The evening's entertainment depicted fashions and dances from all over the globe. A special performance by Palestinians Jumah Al-Absy Faisal Al-Absy and Abed Ajarami called the DABKA thrilled

are under Israeli occupation, we could have gone to jail for

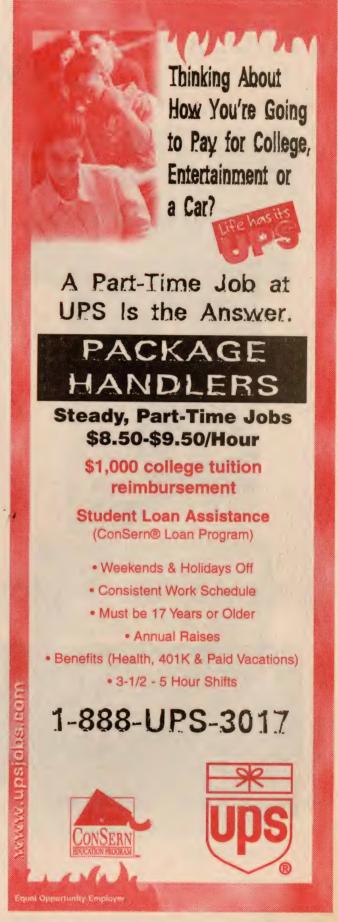
onlookers as well as

performers.

dancing like we did tonight," said Ajarami. All in all, the festival was a great success and according Azimi: "It's only up from here!" Plans for next vear include more events and

opportunities for all students to get involved. Students also look forward to campus housing in 2000 and the years to come.

"I learned that all people can come together and have fun," said Aminullah Ameni of Afghanistan. "It does "Because Palestinians not matter where they are from."



# **CAMPUS**

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Steve Houlton



Chris Machian

# live entertainment,

# a handsome Homecoming king,



Steve Houlton

exceptional voices,

# **SCENES**

# Greeks that go all out,



Steve Houlton



Steve Houlton

# a home away from home

and even a falling sky.



Steve Houlton

# **Employee** of the Year

by Ann Lindenmuth



Steve Houlton

Deborah Koehler wears many hats in her job. She is a mother to the students who are away from their mothers, and an advisor to the instructors who advise those students.

Koehler, a secretary in the special education and communication disorders department in Kaiser Hall was Employee of the Month in June 1998. This put her in the running for Employee of the Year for 1998, and it came as a surprise to her when she was selected.

Koehler came to work at UNO six years ago on a temporary, part-time basis to supplement the family income. When she was offered a permanent position, she took it because, "everyone was so nice and the work was so interesting."

She said she came to work at UNO not long after her husband retired from the US Air Force, and although she hadn't intended to work full-time, she couldn't resist the opportunity when it appeared.

When asked what she enjoys most about her position at UNO, she was quick to say she enjoys the combination of both the faculty she works with and the students she meets each semester. "The students keep the job interesting, each student is different....unique," she said.

Although the students have changed over the years, they have always seemed to feel comfortable talking with Koehler about a number of things.

She said the students are what keep the job exciting and fresh and since the work is basically the same each semester it provides the steadying influence.

"When a student is new, they don't know how approachable the faculty will be," she said. "They seem to feel comfortable coming to me."

Koehler sees the faculty in the special education and communication disorders department as very concerned about the students, and with each new semester she sees the students responding to that level of caring.

"The teachers here are dedicated to giving their students the skills they need to succeed and in turn, I enjoy helping both the instructors and students in whatever way I can," she said.

#### **Pete Wetzel**

#### by Ann Lindenmuth

Pete Wetzel has already learned what it takes to be successful in the world of politics and business, combine a number of ideas and people to create a better world.

Wetzel, a UNO student, created the Information, Science, and Technology panel to bring together students to assist him with the responsibilities connected to his seat on the UNO Student Senate.

"We are taking on projects above and beyond the usual....because we believe it takes more than one mind to take on the tasks of student government at UNO," Wetzel said.

The seven students sitting on the IS&T panel include: Daniel Fajardo, John Dunn, Josh Meiners, Erin and Lindsey Tomaso, Steve Green and Paul Berger. The panel is currently working on creating a "United Nations"

model for recruiting students to UNO. They are also involved in creating a Student Senate handbook because as Wetzel said, "We need to understand the limits in order to push beyond them."

Wetzel and members of the panel are also working on creating a permanent e-mail and web address for UNO alumni, including a data base of classes that will help them refresh and update their skills.

Wetzel
became
involved in
setting up the
IS&T panel
because he saw
teamwork was
essential to accomplish
something for the good
of the students at
UNO. The panel's

motto is: "We are building the foundation for our future."

"The individuals [on this panel] want to become leaders - we share a dream to rise above the status quo," Wetzel said.



Chris Machian

Josh Meiners, a member of the IS&T panel said one of the main reasons he is involved with this panel is to "get more students involved in the decision-making process in regards to the student senate."

He believes the panel members work well together because they bring together a combination of backgrounds and experiences.

In addition to being a full-time student at UNO, Wetzel is also Vice President of Theta Chi fraternity, writer of the "Computer Guy" column for the UNO Gateway, and a referee at the Health, Physical Education and Recreation (HPER) building.

Outside campus,
Wetzel is a network
technician for a data
voice technology
contracting company
that sets up the movie
schedules for the
Douglas Theaters in
Omaha.

This panel is part of a dream of Wetzel's and he would tell all students here at UNO that "if you have a chance to accomplish a dream forsake all to achieve that dream."

#### Mike Kult

by Ann Lindenmuth



Joe Hammeke

Mike Kult's abilities to enjoy life day by day have made him the man he is today.

Kult, assistant director of campus recreation, came to UNO in 1992 as a graduate assistant and was hired as assistant director in 1994.

Besides being assistant director at UNO, Kult is the general manager and part of the coaching staff of the Women's 2000 National Wheelchair Championship Hockey Team. He is also coaching the junior division National Wheelchair team. Kult was part of the Olympic hockey team that went to the Winter Olympics in Nagano, Japan.

Kult said he coached "regular" softball and baseball prior to turning 21, and enjoys working with both regular and wheelchair sports teams.

Kult has been in a wheelchair since a farming accident when he was 4-years-old.

Kult said he realizes the accident opened up opportunities he wouldn't have had if he had not been disabled.

Kult said his future wife, Stacey Wonder, teaches dance to children with disabilities and "his disability is what lead him to her."

Prior to coming to UNO Kult worked

with Special Olympics and was a counselor for special needs adults. "I've lived it, worked with it, and enjoyed it," he said.

Kult said what is truly important is "how a person accepts himself—others will accept you after they get to know you." This was brought home by the chance happening of a former student showing up at his door wanting to say "hi and talk about a couple of things going on (in his life) right now."

Kult is currently part of the CRAB committee, or Campus Recreation Advisory Board, and they are involved with Big Brothers/Big Sisters and the Salvation Army.

He said one reason this committee is so important to him is the fact that it gets him involved in the lives of the students.

"They're not a number, we like to get to know people," Kult said. "I like people and I like my job."

# **Cindy Phaneuf**

by Stephen Croucher

The bard is still alive. Cindy Phaneuf, a professor of dramatic arts at UNO was named president of the Shakespeare Theatre Association of America (STAA) for 1999-2000.

As the new president of STAA, Phaneuf will help plan and preside over the annual conference held in January 2000 in England.

As the newly elected

president of STAA, Phaneuf is responsible for promoting membership and communicating with others to promote William Shakespeare and his works of art.

She hopes to increase the acceptance and encouragement of Shakespeare in public schools.

"A two-pronged

attack will work best.
Outreach in the
schools needs to be
promoted even more,"



she said in the

February 19, 1999 issue of the UNO *Gateway*. "Maybe this will help people realize, he's not too difficult to understand and isn't dull."

Phaneuf said her love for Shakespeare comes from the depth of his many works. "I love the depth and the richness of the language and the depth of the characters. He has so much to say to us today in the 1990's," Phaneuf said.

"Shakespeare gives me hope," she said.

# Be Involved Inform Others Make A Difference



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#### **UNO** in Romania

by Jason Kuiper

All children have a favorite toy. It may be a pillowy-stuffed Raggedy Ann or her good friend, Raggedy Andy. A brightadopting an international child and we became interested in a certain child from Romania," she said. "I asked the

agency what the kids get to take with them when they are adopted and the lady said 'nothing.' The orphanage even keeps the clothes on their back.

Due to shortages in



Without any previous sewing experience, Ball took

he can keep."

children. She found a simple pattern and taught herself how to make a blanket and bear. She then went to

it upon herself to give

something to the

local fabric companies and posted cites on the Internet asking for fabric donations.

She received donations from all over the United States and Canada.

"I just let as many people know as possible," she said. "They could help through donations of fabric or money or come in and help."

Ball takes pride in the fact that all the bears are homemade. She feels good that people have taken the time to make the cuddly bears, something the kids have never had before.

By the end of last summer Ball had 120 bears, each with its own pillow. But her greatest challenge was getting the bears into the arms of needy children.

She discovered the shipping costs were over \$2,000.

"By a wonderful quirk of fate I was put in touch with Tarom Airlines, the Romanian national airline, and they agreed to do it for fre 3," Ball said. She als received a great deal of help form Nebraska Congressman Jon Christensen's office.

The shipment was set out on Oct. 10, 1998. Two weeks before take-off, Ball had a question she knew she had to ask, or she would always regret it.

She called Christensen's office and asked if she could gera ticket too. She was told she would have to ask the airline. She did, and they gave her an 85 percent discount for a round trip flight to Romania.

Ball called her trip a sobering experience, as she witnessed firsthand what the people of Romania have been through.

Although she was in Romania for a week, she was only able to srand about an hour at the orphanage and was not able to deliver the gifts to the



Andy Liakos

colored nerf ball, that can be thrown around and cause minimal damage. All kids seem to have one toy they cannot leave home without.

Sarah Ball, a UNO biology student, knows children who have no such toys.

"My husband and I were looking into

children, because officials wanted to wash the gifts first.

Ball said Orphanage No. 5, that received the toys, looked almost like a prison camp. "I couldn't understand it, they had bars on the windows. I guess they were worried someone would try to steal them or they would try to escape."

The language barrier was one of Ball's biggest difficulties in Romania.

Since she did not speak the language and did not have a translator, communication was reduced to hand gestures.

Ball will return to Romania the second week of June and will be accompanied by a Romanian doctor who now lives in the United States.

This time, Ball will go to the Vidale Orphanage/Institute outside of Bucharest.

Vidale is considered the "dumping ground" for Romanian orphans, Ball said. It houses 108 children ranging in age from four years old to 20-years old. The orphanage is suffering from extreme starvation and is in a remote area.

She will bring 100 teddy bears, quilts and 50 sunsuits.

Ball is receiving help from a cub scout troop, a girl scout troop from Bellevue, and a 4-H group. A pharmaceutical company will be donating medicine and there will be donations of clothes and dry goods from others.

Ball is considering asking for sponsorship from the city of Omaha. She will also be assisted by medical professionals who will be showing volunteers how to care for victims of AIDS and hepatitis in the country.

There is always a need for fabric, money and volunteers. Contact Ball at 292-6252 if you would like to help.

#### **Muscles Win**

#### by Jason Kuiper

UNO student Tina McNulty will be featured in the April issue of *Muscle and Fitness* magazine, for being a winner in the



Steve Houlton

"Biggest Muscles on Campus" contest.

The magazine recognizes college students with "brawn as well as brains."

Winners were selected by a panel of exercise professionals, who determined the students who best represented a healthy lifestyle with weight training, diet and a balanced outlook on life.

McNulty said she has received nothing

but positive feedback from people who have read the article.

"Its been great, people come up to me at the gym and congratulate me. Some people have even asked for my autograph," she said.

McNulty has been working out for over two years now, usually five or six times a week.

McNulty said she rarely eats fast food.

McNulty hopes to get work as a fitness model. Her long term goal is to someday open and run her own gym.

"Girls come up to me and ask me what they should do to get started. That makes me feel good because fitness is definitely worth it. I wish more girls would get into it," McNulty said. "There are not many girls who compete in the fitness shows, that is something I would like to do." For those just getting started in a workout program, McNulty said, start slow and be dedicated. "You really have to want to do it."

# Rice Place Opens

by Eve McLain

The Rice Place in the UNO Food Court brought a different flavor and culture to the standard sandwiches, hamburgers, salads and pizza this year.

something unique,"
Milone said. They
researched pasta bars
and oriental bars
where they cooked
the food in front of
the customer. They
decided on a



Steve Houlton

Michael Milone, UNO food services manager, received a lot of requests for rice in the food court, but he had no place to add it. When it came time to considering adding a new line to the court, rice was on the list.

"We wanted to do

combination of what they had seen and what also met student's requests for healthier items in the food court. "It's fresh and wholesome with a nutritional value," Milone said.

The Rice Place allows customers to select toppings of meats and vegetables to be cooked in front of them, a process known as demonstration cooking. The toppings are cooked in a combination of extra virgin olive oil and vegetable oil and then placed over a large bowl of steaming rice, be it white, vegetable or a specialty rice.

Spices and sauces such as marinara red sauce, hot sauce, garlic pesto, soy sauce, oregano, curry, ginger, cilantro and more can be added. If that's overwhelming, the Rice Place also offers a simple side of rice.

To keep the hungry, fast-paced college student on the move employees of the Rice Place can cook a selection and have it in the hands of the student in about 45-60 seconds.

Since they use fresh ingredients, induction cooking is being used as a way to thoroughly cook the food.

Induction cooking uses magnetic fields with specialty steel pans to cook food quickly. This

combination can boil water in less than 20 seconds leaving the pan cool to the touch.

This quick approach to cooking helps food services prepare over 50 entrees an hour. To speed that up, they are considering having a special of the week. They would prepare some entrees ahead of time, like red beans and rice or Spanish rice, so students in a hurry could grab a preprepared order. This idea would allow the Rice Place to serve more customers during the 11:30 - 1:00 p.m. lunch rush hours.

So far Milone said the Rice Place is "working really well." He hopes the future brings continued success for the Rice Place and another new face for the food court.

The food services department is looking into possibly bringing a Mediterranean touch to Durango's for the next school year. It's still in the works but the preliminary suggestions are for gyros and pita products.

#### Gameroom Fun

by Anthony Welsh

A crowd gazes intently upon two students in a heated match against the video game "Gauntlet" Legends," to see if they become the new champions.

The thrill of defeating or competing against video games provides UNO students with a mental break from the books.

"I come down here a



Steve Houlton

lot, but I rarely play any games," said Phil Stevens, a UNO student.

Many students, like Stevens, would rather sit back and watch. "What I think is so cool, is when you have two or more

> players competing at a game with several onlookers. The game gets extremely close and the person

who wins get lots of cheers. It is almost like being at a real sporting event," said

UNO student Brian Harrison.

Between 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. the game room is usually packed with students. It is rare to see any of the four pool tables unoccupied during this time.

**UNO student Matt** Simms likes to play pool more than anything else. "There are some students who come down here and do compete, but I am usually not one of them," he said. "Every now and then I will get involved with a serious game but I usually play to relax and socialize with my friends."

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# **UNO Forensics**

by Carol Dana

Whether it was eating ice cream at Bob Dole's aunt house, or playing Trivial Pursuit, the UNO Forensics Team found ways to have fun this past year, along with doing well at competitions, said Stephen Croucher, team president.

Head Coach Melissa Jahn and Graduate Teaching Assistant Darian Galyon led the team this past year.

Jahn and Galyon worked with Croucher and the rest of the team, including Ryan Price, Heather Price, Valerie Bauman and Kathleen Kocsis. They prepared numerous events, a travel schedule and ran a successful tournament.

Students were free to pick and choose which tournaments to attend and events to prepare. "We had a say in everything," Croucher said.

The size of the team allowed members to get individual attention from the

coaches.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Competing in forensics is "a very helpful tool," Ryan Price said. He listed meeting people, developing new ideas and improving speaking skills as important benefits.

Croucher believes the whole team benefited

was responsible for organizing and running the event, involving some 17 schools. Schools from as far away as New York and Maryland traveled to Nebraska to compete in the two-day "swing" tournament organized with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln for the first time.

Out of the 17 tournaments UNO attended this season,

"Forensics is a very helpful tool."

- Ryan Price, junior team member

from the closeness of their relationship this past year. The team supported each other by making suggestions for speech improvements and attending each other's events whenever possible.

The rapport among coaches and team members came in handy when UNO hosted its tournament Jan. 10.

The forensics team

the team brought home trophies from every one of them.

The team took fourth at Wayne State College, first in small school entry at Midland Lutheran College and second in small school entry at Northeast Community College. Tournaments involve 11 or more schools, Croucher said.

No matter how many times students made it to final rounds, the members "never took making finals for granted," Croucher said.

Bauman made it to finals in program of oral interpretation and prose. She and Kocsis also made finals five times in duo interpretation.

Heather Price made it to finals with her persuasive speech and in a duo interp with Bauman.

Ryan Price, made it to finals in a cinematic duo with Croucher where they acted out parts from the "Star Wars Trilogy."

Croucher made finals numerous times and qualified for the national competition in six events: persuasive, informative, after dinner, impromptu, extemporaneous and dramatic interpretation.

He and Jahn traveled to Tuscaloosa, Ala. for the American Forensics Association National Tournament in April.

"Forensics has made me a better person," Ryan Price said. "I have found that you can be a leader and also enjoy the sport."

# **Chemistry Club**

#### by Colleen Sergeant

The chem club caused an explosion this year.

No, they didn't light a match in the presence of gaseous ethyl alcohol, but they have been bursting with enthusiasm, growing in numbers, launching projects and winning awards.

The year got off to a fishy start when the club received a \$300 grant in September from the American Chemical Society (ACS) to fund the Fish Aquarium Chemical Education Project.

The grant enabled the club to purchase a 55 gallon aquarium, now located on the third floor of the Durham Science Center and four smaller aquariums, which will be distributed to elementary schools and the Chicano Awareness Center.

Chem club members plunged into the aquarium to learn how to assess the

chemistry of an aquatic environment and they have already had a chance to test their knowledge in an elementary school.

"Explaining things to kids really makes you realize how well or how well you don't understand something," said Matt Williams, a chem club and chem club adviser.

She also envisions the project as an opportunity for the community to get to know UNO and it's students.

The club, which is one of over 900 ACS Student Affiliate Chapters, was awarded honorable mention for its school and community activities.

The club also earned UNO's Outstanding

and just have it be nuts. Even if you aren't a chemistry major, anyone just taking a chemistry class can be involved—it's a great way to meet tutors." Generating funds

Generating funds will be key for the club to continue reaching out to the community. The club has already raised \$2000 this year through Project Achieve tutoring, selling baked goods, chemical tests, Village Inn pies and study guides.

The club is in the process of organizing a demonstration team that will go into junior and senior high schools this fall and give presentations.

"We aren't trying to make chem majors out of all these kids, but we are trying to get them interested in education as a whole," Williams said. "We want to give them something to latch onto, like a neat reaction, and say, 'Hey it's not just boring stuff—math or whatever—it can be fun too."

"We're a really active club and we want it to stay that way."

> - Matt Williams, chem club member

member. "You may understand the chemical process but to take it to their level and get some sort of understanding out of them is really tough."

The aquariums are a real life application that can make chemistry come alive for students, said Lana Thomas, chemistry professor

Student Organization Award and Thomas received the Rising Star Adviser Award.

But now, Williams said, there is a reputation to live up to.

"We're a really active club and we want it to stay that way," he said. "We need to have like a 100 people in the club

# MILO BAIL STU



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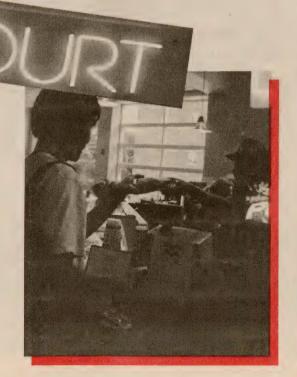
# UDENT CENTER

ay For An

# Experiences

gathering place for the ational environment. It is programs that enhance the niversity.





# **UNO** Wrestling

#### by Andy Nordmeier

The UNO Maverick wrestling team had March 12-13 circled on the team calendars from the first day of practice.

Those were the dates the Mavericks would host the 1999 NCAA Division II Wrestling Championships and the team had a goal of sending as many wrestlers as possible to that tournament. It would mark the first time since 1988, the tournament would be held in Omaha.

That goal was realized, as nine Mavericks made it to the tournament. All nine earned All-American honors, but the Mavericks lost 110-105.5 in a fierce battle to Pittsburgh-Johnstown and had to settle for second place in the national finals.

Maverick 141pounder Braumon
Creighton won his
second title in two
years when he beat
Paul Konechne of
South Dakota State in

the final, 8-5.

Mack La Rock made it to the final match before losing 13-1 to Jody Strittmatter of

Pittsburgh-Johnstown. Chris

Blair also

was a finalist in the 165-pound class for the Mavericks, but he also lost to a Pittsburgh-Johnstown wrestler in the last match.

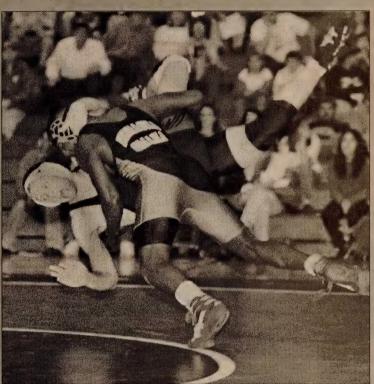
Seniors
Jose
Medina
and Jerry
Corner each finished
third in their final
matches.

All season long, the Mavericks showed signs that this second place finish would happen. UNO rolled through opponents in the season's first five open meets, racking up an impressive .600 winning percentage as a team.

But after the open meets, the ever-brutal

match served a notice to the team, it wouldn't be an easy season, by any stretch of the imagination.

The next week, the Mavericks were in Edmond, Okla. at the



Chris Machian

North Central Conference season came up and bit the Mavericks early.

In the season's first weekend, the No. 2 Mavericks were upset by St. Cloud State in Minnesota and that NCAA Division II National Dual Meet.

The Mavericks rolled through to the finals where UNO would meet a soon-to-be familiar foe, Pittsburgh-Johnstown.

The Mavericks, minus Creighton who was sidelined with an injury in his knee, lost to Pittsburgh-Johnstown 21-16 in the finals.

Injuries would hurt the Mavericks down the road as Boyce Voorhees missed some time with torn cartilage in his ribs. La Rock would also suffer the same injury and miss about three weeks, returning in time for the North Central Conference tournament.

The Mavericks

would have to claw, bite and scratch for it, but UNO snuck past North Dakota State 78-77 to win the conference crown.

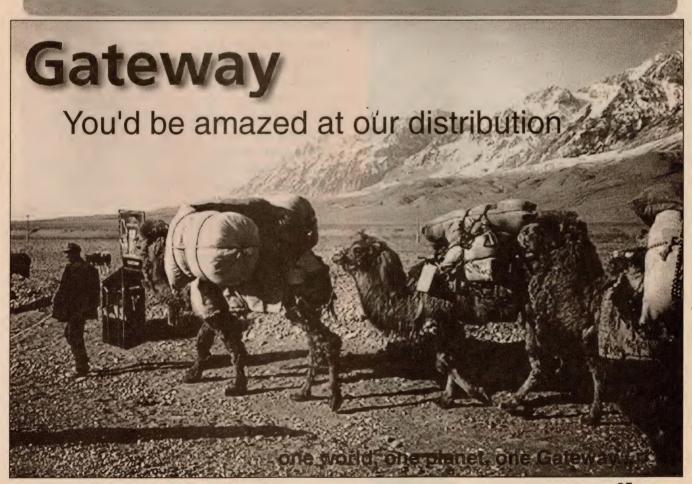
Eight Mavericks earned automatic berths to nationals and La Rock got his tournament ticket punched with a wild-card berth, despite finishing fifth in his weight class in his first matches back from his injury.

The Mavericks didn't have a wrestler in the 133-pound class make it to the national championships, the only weight that didn't go. The Mavericks had a carousel of wrestlers competing for the spot at 133 all year, before senior Jeff Nielsen was given the final nod by UNO Head Coach Mike Denney.

Next year may be a tough one for the Mavericks, as UNO will have to replace Creighton, Medina, Corner and 174-pounder and All-American Albert Harrold.

The second place finish at nationals marks the fourth time in the 1990's the Mavericks have finished second, all of them coming in odd-numbered years (1993, 1995, 1997 and 1999).

The Mavericks will have La Rock, Allan Cartwright, Boyce Voorhees and Scott Antoniak to serve as a nucleus for next year's team, which already has its eyes set on a trip to Brookings, S.D. on the second weekend of March for next year's national finals.



# May Footbull

### by Andy Nordmeier

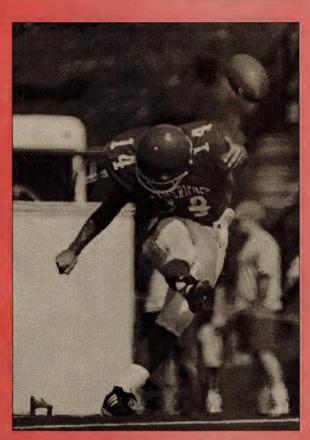
The Mavericks finished the season 9-3 overall and 8-1 in the North Central Conference, a mark good enough to own a share of the title with Northern Colorado.

The first loss came when the Mavs lost 42-26 at Central Missouri State University.

The Mavs came back to Omaha and took frustrations out on the next opponent, the University of Nebraska-Kearney.

After 60 gruesome minutes, UNO came out with a 55-6 thrashing of the instate rivals, to even the record, 1-1.

The team faced its



Chris Machian

first conference foe Sept. 19 and hammered North Dakota State 49-28.

South Dakota was 3-0 when the team played the Mavs in late September, but UNO emerged 29-7, pushing South Dakota toward the bottom of the conference.

The Mavs' run towards the top of the conference continued with a come-frombehind win over North Dakota, 20-10.

Augustana proved to be no contest for the Mavs, UNO beat the visiting Vikings 54-27.

With a 4-0 record and a seat at the top of the conference, the Mav offense went to Brookings, S.D. and ran into the teams lone conference loss.

This game was so close, it headed into overtime and then double overtime with the Jackrabbits tied, 24-24.

South Dakota State's kicker hit his field goal in double overtime while Kosel's attempt sailed wide to give South Dakota State a 30-27 win.

This was not the way the Mays needed to

play a week before hosting the No. 1 Northern Colorado Bears, the two-time defending national champions.

When those two teams hit the turf in Omaha, everyone knew this would be a battle for the ages.

Both teams were fighting for the top spot in the North Central Conference, plus Northern Colorado was undefeated at that time, so the Mavs had plenty of motivation.

There was just one thing, the Mavs had to stop the Bears' offense, which had been mauling opponents all year long.

The team did it, winning 15-3 in a game with only one touchdown.

When the clock ran out, the Mavs did it. They upset the No. 1 team in the country.

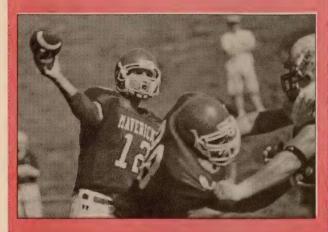
With the huge win over Northern Colorado in their pockets, the Mavs set their sights on Minnesota State-Mankato and were lucky to escape with a win there, 35-27.

The Mays plowed

through opponents the last two weeks of the season.

The Mavs mutilated Morningside 56-6 in Sioux City on a snowy, muddy field before hammering St. Cloud words "Nebraska-Omaha" materialized on the screen and the Mavs found out they would travel to Maryville, Mo. to battle the Northwest Missouri State

Bearcats in the first



Steve Houlton

State 63-30 on the last day of the season.
That game was highlighted by Terrance Davis tying an NCAA record by returning two punts for touchdowns.

One question still burned. Was a 9-2 record and a share of the North Central Conference title with Northern Colorado good enough to make the playoffs?

The answer came
Nov. 15, when the
team was huddled
around watching the
NCAA selection show.
Then the moment of
truth came. The

round of the playoffs.

That was when the Mavs ran out of answers. UNO lost 28-14 to the eventual national champions.

The loss marked the end of the careers of 15 seniors including Davis and quarter-back Ed Thompson.

Senior wide receiver MarTay Jenkins was also drafted by the Dallas Cowboys in April.

Despite the losses, Head Coach Pat Behrns still has a strong core of returning players to build around.



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# Mav Hockey

### by Andy Nordmeier

The Maverick hockey team had a better-than expected debut season on the college hockey map, when UNO posted a 12-18-3 mark, but the same didn't hold true this past season.

The year started with the Mavs being swept by Maine and Denver, a pair of top-10 teams at that point in the season.

The Mavs lost to Minnesota State-Mankato Oct. 30, dropping to 0-5.

The next night, Halloween, the UNO icemen scored win number one

by edging Minnesota State 6-5.

The Mavs tried the next week to get their second win but lost in overtime to Army, 6-5. Army won the second game of the series for the sweep. The Mavs tried again at Niagara but lost twice and the record fell to 1-9.

The Mavs split with Dartmouth, and finally achieved the teams second win, 7-4, on Nov. 28.

It would be eight games until the Mavs won again.

Michigan State, a future rival in the Central Collegiate Hockey Association (CCHA), swept the Mavs, as did the Division III Rochester Institute of Technology and Harvard took two games as well. The Mavs ended the new

year on a sour note by losing 6-2 at Wisconsin.

As 1998 ended, the Mavs record hung at a lowly 2-17 and UNO was mired in a sevengame skid, reminiscent of the 10game slide a season

ago.

The Mavs started 1999 on a slightly better note. UNO split with Bowling Green to stop the slide at eight games and up the record to 3-18.

Something had to happen to the team between the last game of the Bowling Green series, Jan. 3 and the Air Force series, Jan. 15-16. The Mavs would turn play around and win in bunches.

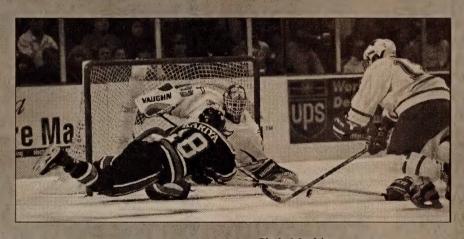
The Mavs swept Air Force and goaltender Kendall Sidoruk blanked Air Force in the series finale 4-0. With the wins the Mavs had a three game winning streak.

Just as the Mavs started to get hot, the team went to the wasteland of Fairbanks, Alaska and were shut out by Nanook goaltender, Ian Perkins, twice in two nights.

UNO came back to the Civic Auditorium and thawed out, but left the defense frozen in Fairbanks. UNO was hammered 8-2 by Niagara on Jan. 29 and that loss served as a wake-up call for the 5-21 Mavs, who were the first team in

hockey
with 20
losses in
the 19981999
season.
Last year
the Mavs
went
unbeaten
in the next
eight
games
after the

college



Chris Machian

Super Bowl (7-0-1). Could it happen again?

The Mavs took the first step by rebounding to beat Niagara 3-1.

The next weekend, the University of Manitoba came to town and the Mavs swept 5-2 and 2-0, with goaltender Jason Mitchell picking up the shutout in the second game of the exhibition series.

With those wins, the Mavs had won six of the last nine games and were 3-0 after the Super Bowl and heading to St. Cloud State for a two-game tilt with the Huskies of the Western Collegiate Hockey Association (WCHA).

The Mavs were shut-out twice by St. Cloud State freshman net-minder Dean Weasler who halted the winning streak and extended UNO's season long road woes. UNO lost all 11 road games and scored just seven goals, combined. The next week, the Mavs showed there is

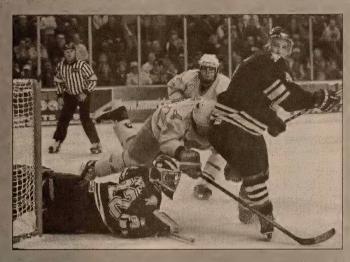
no place like home and pounded the Bemidji State Beavers 8-2 and 7-3 in the last home games of the season.

The white-wash of the Beavers was the most offensive series in school history, with a combined 15 goals, one more than the 14 the Mavs scored at Minnesota State-Mankato in February 1998.

The Mavs then did something the team had not done all year, win on the road. The Mavs finally put road wins on the record with a sweep of Michigan Tech 6-4 and 5-3 in late February.

With the wins, the Mavs won 10 of the last 15 games, including the two exhibitions, the Mavs showed UNO can rally in the second half of the season.

The Mavs lost just three seniors in its first graduating class. Mitchell, as well as defensemen Christian Graham and Colin Strom suited up for

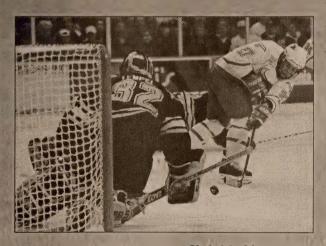


Chris Machian

their final collegiate games against Minnesota State-Mankato.

Despite the losses, the Mavs will have its top five scorers back next year and have a pair of strong goaltenders, Kendall Sidoruk and Rodney McLeod as well as highlytouted recruit Dan Jensen.

The season will open in the second weekend of October with an exhibition game against a Canadian team.



Chris Machian

# May Volleyball

### by Andy Nordmeier

For the Maverick volleyball team, 1998 was a year of beginnings. They had a new hardwood surface to play their home games on and had to work without the skills of Christyn Malone and Tanya Cate, two seniors that left the team.

Problem? No. The Mavs still had several key players coming back in Cheri Pribyl, Christy Fossum, Tracy Ankeny and Krista Niezwaag as well as several promising recruits. The team was half-freshman but it still won.

The Mavs recorded a 21-11 season, but missed the playoffs.

The year started out well for the Mays.

The team won the season-opening tournament in Aiken, S.C. and was on its way to a win in the UNO Labor Day tournament until Grand Canyon beat UNO in the final game to hang the first

loss on the team.

Still, 6-1 was a good start for the Mavs.

UNO won a second tournament in the middle of

September in Minnesota and were 9-1 heading into the everbrutal North Central Conference season.

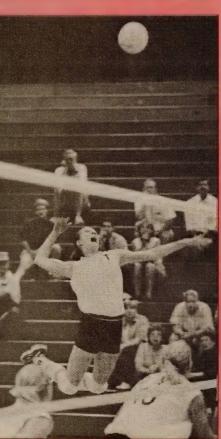
It started roughly as UNO lost three of its first four league games, all of them on the road. The matches finished up 3-2, so the Mavs were in it

That got the Mavs back on track as the team ran off five straight wins in the

to the bitter end.

league and began to look like the 1996 title team.

September 29 against Wayne State, the Mavs suffered the most devastating injury all year. Freshman Lisa Webster nearly



Chris Machian

destroyed all the ligaments in her knee when she tried to stop herself from going under the net.

Webster's knee turned, but the rest of her body kept going forward, causing injuries that would shelve her for the season and require surgery. Webster was in rehabilitation through March getting her knee back to full strength.

Just as soon as UNO got hot, the team went stone-cold, dropping six of the next seven and not winning a game in three straight matches in late October. Those losses put the Mavs on the play-off bubble with seven games left.

Maverick Head Coach Rose Shires said her team needed to go 6-1 in the last seven to have a playoff chance.

UNO started the final seven games with shutout wins over North Dakota, South Dakota and Morningside. The Mavs suffered a setback when the team was swept in Greeley, Colo. by the Northern Colorado Bears. That loss made the last two games critical.

The Mays hosted St.

Cloud State and Minnesota State-Mankato for the last two matches and each match went the full five games. Against, St. Cloud, the Huskies put the Mavs on the ropes by winning the first two games.

Somehow, the Mavs rallied and won the final three games, 19-17 in the last one to stay alive.

The Mavs may have been humming the Bee Gees' "Staying Alive" after that win but needed one more win to give them a good shot at postseason play.

**Against Minnesota** State, UNO had to win and the Mays got off to a good start, by winning the first two games. True to form, Minnesota State rallied back and tied the match at 2-2. It left UNO's playoff hopes resting on one game. The home team was able to capitalize on errors made by Minnesota State and won the fifth game 15-11 and raised the

team record to 21-11.

That night, the Mavs waited for the call to know if UNO made the playoffs. The Mavs were battling with Northern Colorado and Minnesota-Duluth for the fourth spot as the top three spots had been sealed up.

Eventually Shires was on the phone and when she hung up, she knew the truth. Minnesota-Duluth had the fourth spot in the playoffs in a "close decision" that

left the Mavs sitting on the sidelines for the first time in a few years when the playoffs started.

The Mavs lost
Pribyl, Fossum and
Jamie Schaefer after
last season but still
have a strong nucleus
to build around, with
Niezwaag, Ankeny
and Boltin leading the
team along with the
two recruits Shires
has landed. The Mavs
can again rise to be
the team to beat in the
North Central
Conference.

# **UNO Soccer**

by Andy Nordmeier

Last year, UNO was interviewing to see who would be UNO's first women's soccer coach, Don Klosterman was chosen.

Klosterman, a former coach with Millard South, also worked with Creighton University in the 1980's.

He had 15 months to build a

team before play begins in September.

His task became somewhat easier when he landed forward Katie Hobbs as the first recruit for the team. Hobbs, from Springfield-Platteview High School, set many records in both Class B and scoring records for the state of Nebraska.

When she wasn't hitting the turf for the high school, she was playing with Gladiator Aida, an area club team,

February 3, the national letter of intent day, Klosterman announced he had signed five other players off of the same Gladiator Aida team, including a couple of defenders, another forward and a goaltender.

He kept on going and signed a couple more recruits as of press time to bring his total up to eight.

Over the next few weeks, Klosterman will end recruiting and

work on a roster.

That team will be unveiled Sept. 1 when the Mavs battle Creighton at 7 p.m. in Omaha.

Most of September will be spent on the road.

The Mavs' lone home field game in September, on the Aksarben property, is Sept. 18 against Northwest State.

October has more home games for the Mavs, all six games are on home grass.

# Men's Basketball

### by Andy Nordmeier

Maverick Head Coach Kevin Lehman said this past season marked the start of a new era of Maverick basketball. The team had a new hardwood floor, new uniforms and a new attitude.

Winning also became a part of the new era as well.

After seven years, the Maverick men's basketball team is finally a winner. The Mavs finished the 1998-1999 season 15-12 overall, for the first winning record since 1991-1992.

The Mavs followed the trend of the last few years by tearing through the non-conference schedule and this past year was no exception.

The Mavs won seven of 10 non-conference games including the championship of the California State University-Stanislaus Warrior Holiday Tournament in late November.

However, when the North Central Conference season started in late December, the Mays fell back into place toward the bottom of the league standings.

The team started out 1-4 in its first five conference games and two of those losses were over-time games.

Unlike previous teams, these Mavs responded and ran off three straight wins, to up the team record to 11-6 and put UNO in the thick of the league standings at 4-4.

But where the highs were, the lows quickly followed. The threegame win streak came to a screeching halt in Greeley, Colo., when the Mavs lost 73-71 to Northern Colorado.

Northern Colorado was winless in the conference at that time.

Despite a losing record, the Mavs were within two games of second place, as most of the teams in the league were hovering around .500 for most of the first half. Only South Dakota was alone at the top and

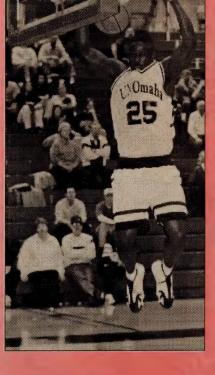
Northern Colorado was on the bottom.

The second half of the conference season started out just like the first half, with the Mavs going 0-5. Those losses dropped the five to do so.

UNO did and then some, posting a 4-1 mark in the last five games. The wins started with an 85-71 triumph over Augustana. The next

night, UNO's buzzerbeating shot edged South Dakota State 79-78 and raised the record to 13-11.

The final three games were all at home and the Mavs had to win one to get the winning season. **UNO** made no mistake about it, beating Northern Colorado 94-



Chris Machian

team to 11-11 overall, with five games to play. If the Mavs were going to be winners the team had to win at least three of the final

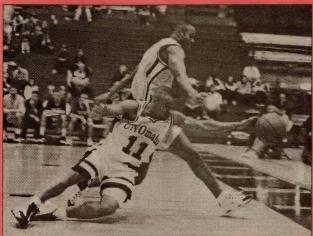
87 Feb. 20 to raise the record to 14-11. With two games left there would be no way for the Mavs to suffer another losing year.

Just to make sure, the Mays posted a win over North Dakota State on the last night of the year 88-85 to bring the final record to 15-12 and 8-10 in the North Central Conference.

game.

Despite the hole left by Griffin's departure, the Mavs will still have a solid nucleus to build around for next year. Guard Mike Simons and forward Robert Wettstein will help guide the Mavs into the 1999-2000 season as seniors. Michael

Individually, allconference senior Corey Griffin, who scored nearly 20

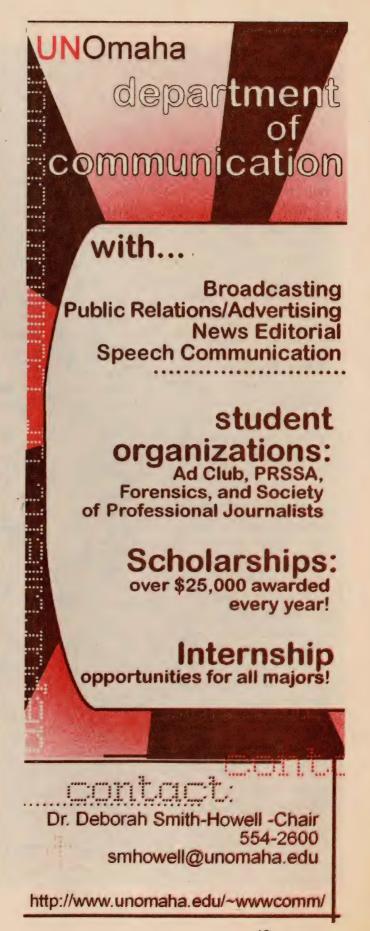


Chris Machian

points per game, led the Mays. Griffin also became the 10th May ever to score more than 500 points in a season, the ninth to hit 200 or more field goals in a season and scored the highest point total by one player in 22 years, when he scored 32 points in his final

Foltynski and transfer player Gary Morgan will also be leading the senior charge up and down the hardwood.

The Mays will also have several new recruits and transfers on the team next year that will help UNO out in its quest to move up in the North Central Conference.



### Women's

# Basketball

by Andy Nordmeier

The Mav women's basketball team had to make adjustments from the start of the 1998-1999 season.

First, was the coaching staff transition. Cherri Mankenberg stepped down after 22 seasons as head coach, to become UNO's associate athletic director and Paula Buscher, an assistant of Mankenberg's for nine years, stepped up to the head coaching position.

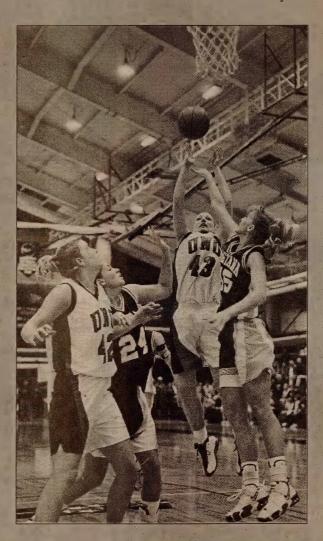
Assistant Coach Darla Innes left the Mavs for the head coaching position at her alma mater, Michigan Tech and forced Buscher to look for an assistant.

Second, the Mavs were coming back from a 10-17 season, in which they lost an unprecedented 14 games in a row.

Third, there was the new hardwood floor that replaced the ancient tartan surface that used to cover the floor of the Sapp Fieldhouse.

With those three changes made, the Mavs were ready to make some noise in the North Central Conference.

State 104-78 Nov. 19. In the Mavs' next game against the University of Nebraska-Kearney,



Chris Machian

The Mavs showed promise in the non-conference season. The Mavs tore through Northern

freshman guard Jennifer Mitchell strutted her stuff, scoring 30 points in only her fourth collegiate game. Mitchell's outstanding effort wasn't enough. UNK's Darcy Stracke poured in 43 points for an 86-68 UNK victory.

The Mavs escaped the non-conference schedule with a 5-4 record, but still had to face 18 of the toughest teams in the country including North Dakota, the defending national champions.

The conference season couldn't have had a rougher start, as the Mavs opened at North Dakota and at No. 8 North Dakota State in December. The Mavs took North Dakota State to overtime before falling 83-81. The next night, North Dakota creamed the Mavs 98-52.

Unlike last year, the Mavs responded to losses and won the next two games by beating Morningside and South Dakota. The wins evened the Mavs' conference record to 2-2 and 7-6 overall.

Unfortunately, the Mavs went on a threegame slide and lost four of the last five games to close out the first half of the conference season, 8-10 overall and 3-6 in the league. The lone win was a thrilling 85-81 double-overtime

win over Augustana Jan. 16.

The Mavs started out the second half of the season with some promise. UNO won the next three of four to up the record to 11-11 overall, which entertained some thoughts of a winning season.

The only thing that stood between UNO and a winning record was Augustana and South Dakota State, before dropping a 69-62 game against Northern

Colorado. Those three losses dropped the Mavs to 11-14.

Then North Dakota came to Omaha Feb.

26 and found out the hard way, the Mavs are not a team to take lightly. North Dakota entered the game at 25-1 and 14-1 in the North Central

close with North
Dakota in the first 10
minutes of the game.
But North Dakota
scored the final 10
points of the game,
most of them on free

Dakota to its lowest offensive output of the season, nearly 30 points below the average and showed the Mavs can play with anyone.

The Mavs
will have a
strong
nucleus to
build around
next year,
with
Mitchell and
Birkel.
Sarah

Larson and Jenny : DeSmet will also be back next year for the Mays and battle in the paint for rebounds. Add to that Katie Welsh, Marsha Novotny, Amy Soenen, Natasha Owens and Kari Kerkhoff and the Mavs could be a

formidable power in the North Central Conference next year.



Chris Machian

Conference with the league crown locked up.

The Mays stayed

throws, to salt away a 62-53 win over the Mays.

Despite the loss, the Mavs held North

# **Swimming**



# Diving

by Andy Nordemeier

The Maverick swimming and diving team started their second season with some higher expectations. UNO finished sixth at the seventeam North Central Conference meet and won a majority of duals, while setting record after record.

Some things never change.

The team finished fifth at the conference meet and set 20 school records this past season, while qualifying a swimmer and diver for the national meet. Not bad for a second-year team.

In duals, the Mavs' only losses were to the Northern Colorado Bears, a team perennially ranked in the top 10 in the nation.

The Mavs started the year by beating South Dakota State, the University of Nebraska-Kearney and the Colorado School of Mines, by a combined 491-326 score. November 7, the Mavs had their first run-in with Northern Colorado, as the

teams met as part of a triangular meet with Colorado College. The Mavs finished in the middle of the trio with 129 points. Northern Colorado scored 183 points to win, while Colorado College finished third with 76 points. The Mavs picked up a win and a loss in that meet, raising the record to 4-1.

The next week UNO drowned South
Dakota 134-95 in the pool in the Health,
Physical Education and Recreation
(HPER) Building and were 5-1. The Mays

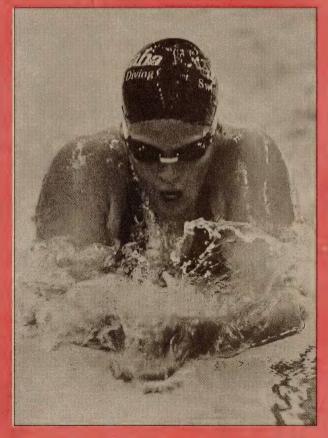
headed out to the Truman State (Mo.) Invitational and came back with a 4th place finish, the worse of the season.

The Mays kept the winning ways going, with a home-water win over UNK, 151-84 and moved the record to 6-1. The next day, UNO headed to Brookings, S.D. and the Jackrabbit Invitational, with momentum on their side. When the final wave hit the side of the pool, the Mavs looked up at the scoreboard and found out UNO won the invitational meet.

It only got better from there. The Mavs beat up on South Dakota State again, this time winning 158-79 Dec. 4. In-state rival, South Dakota, couldn't fare any better against the Mavs, losing in Vermillion, S.D. 134-101 Dec. 12.

With those two wins, the Mavs headed into the holiday break with an 8-1 mark in duals.

Like last year, the Mavs' schedule was



Steve Houlton

more open. UNO
made the usual
Florida training trip in
the first part of
January before the
next home meet Jan.
17. The Mavs lost that
dual meet 191-106,
but the effort still left
Samland satisfied.

A period of 12 competition-free days separated the Mavs from the Washington University Invitational, held in St. Louis on the last weekend in January.

The Mavericks stormed through the 11-team field, won all five relays and finished second in the final meet before the North Central Conference championships in mid-February.

The team season was full of wins, but the individual efforts of many swimmers helped make the Mavs the team with the highest winning percentage of any team on campus.

Freshman Tasha
Soby led the Mavs by
setting five individual
records and
swimming the leadoff leg on four record-

setting relays.

Soby is the fastest Mav in the 50- and 100-yard freestyle, 100- and 200-yard backstroke as well as the 200-yard individual medley. Soby was also the lead-off swimmer on the 200- and 400-yard freestyle relay as well as the 200- and 400-yard medley relay.

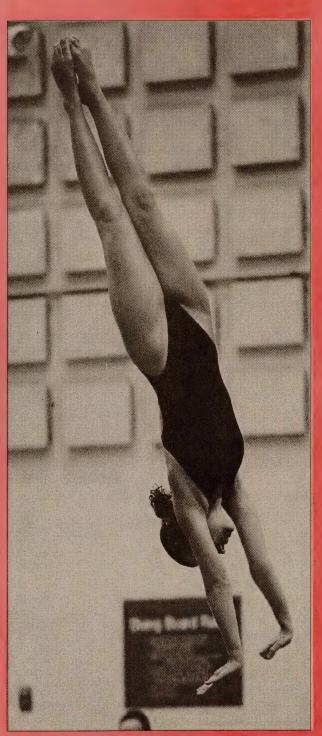
Another freshman who made waves in the record book was Jamie Haferbier. Haferbier set the marks in the 100- and 200-yard breaststroke, as well as swimming on four record setting.

Aimee LaFave and Kristy Malone each set a pair of records for the Mavs during the 1998-1999 season.

The records weren't just falling in the swimming pool, they also fell in off of the diving boards.

Freshman Aja
Wurth, one of the two
Mavs who qualified
for the national meet,
set four records.
Wurth has the records
in the one-meter
diving (both dual
meet and
championship

formats) and the three-meter diving marks (both dual meet and championship formats).



Steve Houlton

# **UNO Baseball**

Jim Sheil

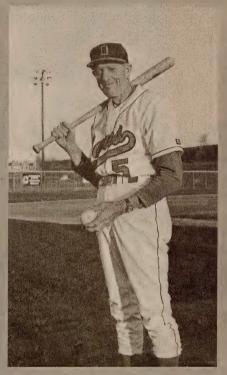
Regardless of what the 1999 UNO baseball team achieves on the field, it will be remembered as Head Coach Bob Gates' final season.

Gates, who has been coaching for 23 years at UNO, will be remembered for the positive influence on hundreds of young men and the legions of friends he has amassed over close to 50 years in coaching.

"I've enjoyed coaching no matter where I've been ... I've never had a job I didn't like," Gates told the UNO *Gateway* shortly after announcing his retirement.

Gates came to UNO in 1977, after a stint of coaching at various levels throughout Nebraska. He coached baseball, football and basketball at Holy Name High School from 1951-1961. Gates then moved to the University of Nebraska where he

was an assistant coach in baseball and basketball from 1961-1966 and then went to the now defunct



Steve Houlton

Pershing College in Beatrice, Neb. to take the head coaching job and athletic director position from 1967-1973. Gates

"The season has been a little disappointing, because we haven't played up to our

As usual, it's late April and the Mavericks find themselves in the midst of a North Central Conference race with a 4-4 conference record and a 10-18 record overall. UNO has its eyes on the season ending

conference tournament in which the top four teams advance to battle for the conference championship, for the second year in a row.

The team's captains are Brent Rasmussen and Brad Prokupek.

Rasmussen was a captain on the 1998 team and is the first two-year captain under coach

potential, but were in the conference race and that's what the goal is," said senior Pete Englund about the current season.

A major factor in the early season slump was the loss of two pitchers, who were penciled into the Mavs starting rotation. Sophomores Adam Ford and John Cappellano had their seasons end due to injuries, but will be counted on heavily in the future.

The 1999 Maverick baseball season got off to an earlier start than usual, as UNO and Creighton University took advantage of a warm day in early February. The Mavs hung with the Division 1 Bluejays until late in the game, when Creighton pulled away to win 10-5.

Nearly a month later, UNO kicked off its scheduled opener with a doubleheader split with Midland Lutheran College.

Next the Mavs took off for Colorado over spring break to play Air Force and Mesa State. While the Mavs hit the ball well, a young pitching staff was hit hard, as UNO lost three of four to Mesa State and split with Division 1 Air Force.

The Mavericks continued the non conference part of their schedule by splitting a doubleheader with Morningside College, dropping three of four to Wayne State College and losing a game to the University of Nebraska -Lincoln.

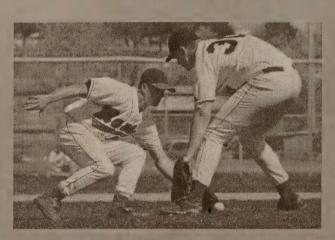
But they ended nonconference play on a high note by traveling to Maryville, Mo. and downing Northwest Missouri State 6-2.

**UNO** opened conference play by splitting four games with St. Cloud State and could have experienced the turning point in the season. In a season marked by a lack of clutch hitting, UNO came through versus St. Cloud State. After getting shutout in the first game and getting blanked going into the last inning, behind 2-0, the Mavs were behind the eight ball. With the bases loaded, Brent Rasmussen singled to score one run and junior college transfer Jason Herzog followed with a hit to plate the tying and winning runs.

The Mavs roller coaster season continued by getting

different hitters leading the team throughout the year.

Early in the season seniors Englund, Rasmussen and Prokupek were at the top of the hitting charts. Since the start of conference play, some underclassmen have stepped up their play and begun to



Chris Machian

swept by Augustana College and then the next day sweeping South Dakota State to stay in the conference race. "The season will probably come down to the last series, just like last year," Englund said.

Offensively the Mavericks have had assume leadership roles. Sophomores Matt Haynes and John Shoemaker have been big contributors to Coach Gates' offense and will be an offensive staple in the future.

On the mound, UNO hasn't been as consistent, as the team would like, but have had many solid performances. The staff is anchored by Rasmussen and Jeff Hirschbrunner. Also, in the regular rotation are Ben Miller and Nick Carlson.

While everyone wants to send out Gates with a conference championship, the 1999 team has one of the largest senior classes in recent memory. Along with Prokupek, Englund and Rasmussen are Justin Siebler and Steve Synowicki.

As with Coach Gates' style, he has downplayed his retirement and kept the focus on the team Englund said.

In fact, after telling his team of his impending retirement Gates has not mentioned it again.

UNO Athletic Director Bob Danenhauer said the Mavs are losing more than a baseball coach, "We're losing a friend, a teacher and one of the most loyal coaches and employees you could ask for."

# UNO Softball

### by Andy Nordmeier

The Maverick softball team had a 1998 season that saw the end of a streak of trips to the College World Series of Division II softball.

The teams record wasn't an issue, as UNO finished 33-19, 5-3 in the North Central Conference, which was good enough for second in the Southern Division.

The Mavs started out the year by rolling through the non-conference schedule.

UNO finished 3-2 in the Pittsburg State tournament that opened the season. In that tournament, freshman pitcher Michelle Manthei threw a no-hitter in her first collegiate game when she handcuffed Pittsburg State 8-0.

The Mavs won 13 of their next 16 games including a fine run through the Rebel Games

tournament in Ocoee, Fla.

Unfortunately, when the Mavs came back north, the record



Chris Machian

started to go south a little at a time.

The Mavs would win just three of their next seven games before starting the North Central Conference season.

When the conference season started, the Mavs opened with a split against Augustana before ringing up

sweeps over Morningside and South Dakota.

The sweeps marked the start of a run that would have the Mavs win nine of 10 and bring the team toward the North Central Conference

tournament.

In the regional playoffs, the Mays ran out of answers. The team started that playoff round with a 3-2 loss to St. Cloud State: That loss put the Mays on the ropes in the doubleelimination bracket.

UNO staved off elimination by edging North Dakota State 2-1. That win, however, brought the team up to the plate against St. Cloud State again and the game ended with the same result.

The Mavs were on the short end of the one-run game and lost 2-1 to end the season before the national tournament for the first time since 1993.

In addition to the end of the season, 1998 marked the end of the playing careers of several Mav seniors.

Jeanne Howe, Pam Schaefer, Mindy Hahne, Laura Adams and Kelly Secord saw their Mav careers end in the regional loss. All of them were seniors with the exception of Secord who transferred to Bellevue University.

This season will be one in which the Mavs will have to work with a team that is half-freshmen, but has several key players coming back.

Pitchers Tara
Buzzell and Manthei
return for the Mavs as
does speedy
outfielder Jenny
Redlinger.

Around the horn, Kelly Davis and Jill Peterson come back for another season.

Catcher Beth Abramson is also back after off-season hip surgery.

The Mavs were just about ready to start the 1999 campaign at press time.



# **UNO Track & Field**

# by Andy Nordemier

The Maverick track and cross country team had a frustrating year in both halves of the discipline.

The cross country season started out like most years, with the Mavericks posting fast times and wins in the UNO Invitational and the Doane College Invitational in September.

The month ended without No. 3 runner

Becky Goltz on the course. Goltz was sidelined at the start of the month with a shin injury, that would eventually sideline her for the cross country season and force UNO Head Coach Tim Hendricks to pull out the medical red-shirt for her.

At the conference championships, the Mavericks finished in was sidelined with an injury to her lower back, that kept her out for the remainder of cross country season.

Again Hendricks would pull out the medical red-shirt and give it to Biltoft.

Also, No. 2 runner Theresa Sanderson was slowed by a nagging foot injury, but continued to run.

The injuries took their toll and the Mavericks finished fifth at the qualifying meet, one spot out of the national field.

Once the track

season moved indoors. the Mavericks ran into some of the same challenges that have haunted the team from previous years. The Mavericks have been perennially

strong in the running events, but the field has been the team Achilles' Heel.

There was one other

thing the Mavericks had to overcome, the loss of sixteen-time All-American Carri Butler.

Butler set nearly every Maverick record in shortdistance events on the track in her four years at UNO and would leave a hole in the Maverick lineup.

That hole would be filled by freshman Carly Lambert, as she would be the Mavericks' go-to person in sprints.

The Mavericks would get some help in the field form Jamie Cason in the throws and Sandy Derby crossing over from sprints to adding the high jump to her skills.

Those talents helped the Mavericks out at the North Central Conference meet, but still couldn't bring the team any closer than a third place finish, behind North Dakota StateUniversity and South Dakota State University.

The Mavericks finished in a 23rd place tie at the national meet on the indoor side.

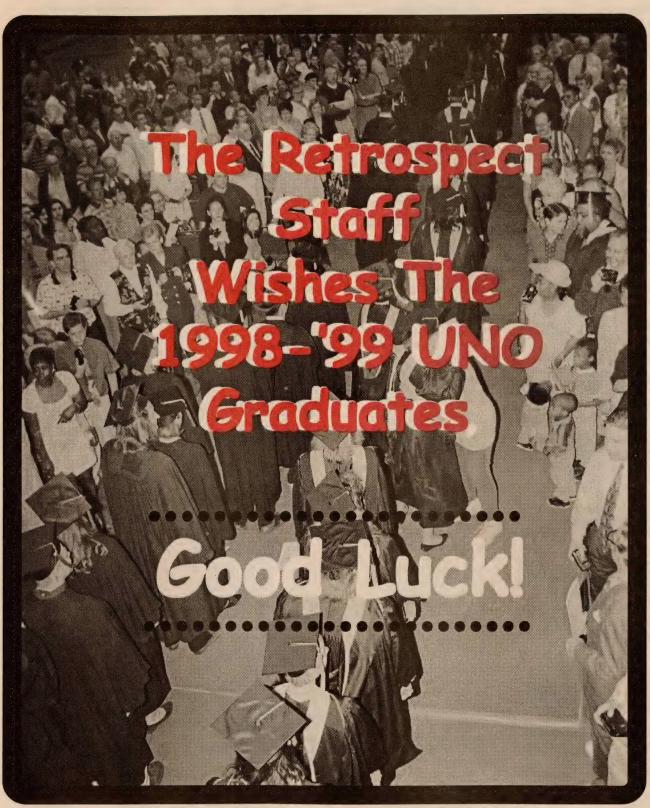


Chris Machian

the middle of the pack and UNO set sights on the North Central Regional, the only way to qualify for the NCAA national meet.

On the road to regionals, injuries struck again.

This time, No.1 runner Tara Biltoft



Chris Machian

Degrees and Certificates granted by the University of Nebraska at Omaha on August 15, 1998.

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